

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Public Information Office Contact: Sally Shutt, Director Telephone: 910-321-6579 E-mail: <u>sshutt@co.cumberland.nc.us</u> Dec. 8, 2015

## **County Employee Wins Statewide Photography Award**

FAYETTEVILLE – Cumberland County Government Graphic Design Information Specialist II Claudia Sievers received a first-place award for photography from the North Carolina Association of Government Information Officers. Sievers accepted the Excellence in Communications Award Nov. 19 at the William and Ida Friday Center in Chapel Hill.

Sievers won for a photograph taken during a full-scale hazardous materials exercise held jointly by Cumberland and Bladen counties at the Chemours Work Site off N.C. Highway 87 on Aug. 29. The photograph appears in a brochure promoting the Local Emergency Planning Committee. Photographs were judged based on technical, visual and aesthetic criteria, as well as content, timeliness and impact on the intended audience.

A Fayetteville native, Sievers has been with Cumberland County for eight years. She was a graphic designer with the library system before joining the Public Information Office in 2014.

"This is well-deserved recognition for Claudia's talent and visual expertise. We are so proud of her and grateful for the important role she plays in our communications efforts," said Sally Shutt, the County's governmental affairs and public information officer.

The N.C. Association of Government Information Officers is a nonprofit group of public affairs professionals. The group is dedicated to the principles of open government and its members serve as communication links between the media, public and government. Go to <u>ncagio.org</u> for more information.



Bridget Munger of the N.C. Association of Government Information Officers presents Claudia Sievers, left, with a first-place photography award at the NCAGIO Excellence in Communications Awards ceremony Nov. 19 in Chapel Hill.



Claudia Sievers won first place in photography in the N.C. Association of Government Information Officers Excellence in Communications Awards for this photo taken Aug. 29 during a hazardous materials training exercise held jointly by Cumberland and Bladen counties at the Chemours work site.